

# Senate File 56 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 56

BY ZAUN

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act authorizing a school district to adopt a mandatory  
2 uniform policy.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.58, subsection 1, Code 2013, is  
2 amended by striking the subsection.

3 Sec. 2. Section 279.58, subsection 2, Code 2013, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 2. The board of directors of a school district may adopt,  
6 for the district or for an individual school within the  
7 district, a mandatory uniform policy or a dress code policy  
8 ~~that prohibits students from wearing gang-related or other~~  
9 ~~specific apparel~~ if the board determines that the such a policy  
10 is necessary for the health, safety, or positive educational  
11 environment of students and staff in the school environment or  
12 for the appropriate discipline and operation of the school.

13 3. Adoption and enforcement of a mandatory uniform policy  
14 or a dress code policy pursuant to this section is not a  
15 violation of section 280.22 if the policy is viewpoint neutral,  
16 is reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns, or  
17 protects students from sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd  
18 speech.

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill authorizes a school district to adopt, for the  
21 school district or for an individual school, a mandatory  
22 uniform policy, in addition to the dress code policy currently  
23 authorized by the Code, if the board determines that such  
24 a policy is necessary for the health, safety, or positive  
25 educational environment of students and staff in the school  
26 environment or for the appropriate discipline and operation of  
27 the school.

28 The bill provides that such policies are not a violation  
29 of Code section 280.22, which establishes that public school  
30 students have the right to exercise freedom of speech, if  
31 the policy is viewpoint neutral, is reasonably related to  
32 legitimate pedagogical concerns, or protects students from  
33 sexually explicit, indecent, or lewd speech.

34 The bill eliminates the general assembly's findings and  
35 declarations regarding a dress code policy.